

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-14. **(Canceled)**

15. **(Currently amended)** A In a fuel filter comprising  
a filter housing,  
at least one substantially flat filter element contained in the housing,  
~~at least two connections, at least one of which connections serves as a fuel inlet  
delivering fuel to be filtered into the housing and at least one of which serves as a fuel  
outlet delivering filtered fuel from the housing, the improvement wherein the filter element  
is embodied as flat and~~  
at least one wall encapsulating a side of the filter element, wherein the filter  
element and the at least one wall together constitute a filter insert which is inserted into  
the housing.

16. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, wherein the filter element comprises a folded filter material.

17. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 16, wherein the filter material is folded essentially into the shape of a block.

18. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, wherein the filter insert element comprises an encapsulated clean side that is connected to ~~the connection serving as~~ the fuel outlet.

19. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 17, wherein the filter insert element comprises an encapsulated clean side that is connected to ~~the connection serving as~~ the fuel outlet.

20. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, wherein the filter insert comprises element comprise an encapsulated dirty side that is connected to ~~the connection~~ serving as the fuel inlet.

21. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 17, wherein the filter insert comprises element comprise an encapsulated dirty side that is connected to ~~the connection~~ serving as the fuel inlet.

22. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 18, wherein the filter insert comprises element comprise an encapsulated dirty side that is connected to the connection serving as the fuel inlet.

23. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, comprising of two or more filter elements contained in the filter housing.

24. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 20, comprising of two or more filter elements contained in the filter housing.

25. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, wherein at least one of the fuel inlet or the fuel outlet connections is situated at an end of the filter housing.

26. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 25, wherein the fuel inlet and the fuel outlet characterized in that at least two of the connections are situated at opposite ends of the filter housing.

27. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, further comprising of a flow entry that at least reduces turbulence in the region of the side where the flow strikes the filter element.

28. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, further comprising a flow baffle provided in the connection serving as the fuel inlet.

29. **(Currently amended)** The fuel filter according to claim 20, further comprising a flow baffle provided in the connection serving as the fuel inlet.

30. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 29, wherein the flow baffle is inclined upward in relation to the flow direction.

31. **(Previously presented)** The fuel filter according to claim 15, wherein the filter housing comprises a block-shaped housing part and a cover that closes the housing part.